organised private sector declined from 44.73 lakhs to 44.09 lakhs in the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Government Manpower Corporation for Emigrating Indian Workers**

456. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the flourishing racket of unscruplous private manpower exporters in the country even on forged passports, including nurses and other women employed as maid servants and the indignities and abuse to which they are subjected to by the foreign employers;

(b) if so, whether, with a view to give proper legal protection to the Indian manpower sent abroad Government have considered the desirability of setting up a Government manpower Corporation; and

(c) if so, by when the said Corporation is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) A few complaints against unscrupulous private manpower exporters were received and the same were forwarded to the police authorities for action under the Law.

(b) and (c) Nine States have set up Manpower Export Corporations. There is no proposal presently for setting a Corporation at the Central level.

**Production of sugar**

457. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what on an average, is the annual sugar production in the sugar producing States in the country, State-wise and by what percentage it falls short of the installed capacity;

(b) what percentage of the shortfall in the sugar production is attributed to the restrictions on the movement of sugarcane from one area of a State to another and by diversion of sugarcane to Khandsari units;

(c) whether Government propose to remove the restrictions on the movement of sugarcane, if so, what steps have been taken in this direction; and

(d) what strategy has been formulated by Government to boost sugar production in the country and to reduce dependence on imports?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) A statement giving State-wise production of sugar, installed capacity and percentage capacity utilization during the last 3 seasons is attached (*See* Appendix CCIII, annexure No. 17).

(b) and (c) As would be seen from the statement referred to above, capacity utilization on all-India basis has been more than 100%. In order to ensure regular and adequate supplies of sugarcane to sugar factories, the State Governments are required to reserve areas for drawal of sugarcane by respective factories and the factories are not generally expected to go beyond their reserved areas before the bonded cane has been crushed. How-

ever, in case of surplus cane availability, State Governments can allow movement of cane from one area of the State to another. The percentage utilization of sugarcane by sugar factories has been fluctuating year to year and depends on various factors like sugarcane production, prices of alternative sweeteners etc. and variation in capacity utilisation cannot be quantified separately for each cause.

(d) Government has been taking various measures to augment indigenous sugar production. Some of the measures adopted are given below :

(1) Statutory minimum price of sugarcane for 1989-90 season has been fixed at Rs. 22.00 per quintal, linked to a recovery of 8.5% with proportionate premium for nigher recoveries. For 1988-89 the price was Rs. 19.50 per quintal.

(2) For 1990-91, a still higher price of Rs. 23.00 per quintal, linked to a recovery of 8.5% has been announced.

(3) Additional freesale quota of sugar was allowed to sugar mills on excess production during the period 1st October 1989 to 15th November, 1989. Under this scheme, free sale quota on excess production during the period 1st October to 15th November 1989, over the average production achieved by the sugar mill during the corresponding period in the preceding three years was allowed at 80% as against normal freesale entitlement of 55%.

(4) Licensing of new capacity commensurate with the internal requirement of sugar is being allowed.

(5) Financial assistance on easy terms is being granted to sugar mills out of the Sugar Development Fund for development of sugarcane in their areas of operation and also for modernisation of the units.

(6) The ratio of levy : freesale has been changed in the last few years to improve the economic viability of the sugar industry In 1984-85 the levy : freesale ratio was 65:35. In 1985-86 it was changed to 55:45 in 1986-87 to 50:50 and in 1988-89 to 45:55.

(7) It has been decided to give higher freesale quota @80% instead of noumal 55% on sugar produced during the period 1st May 1990 to 31st July 1990 which is in excess of the production during the corresponding period of last season.

(8) Further higher free sale quota would also be allowed for the sugar production during the period 16-11-1989 to 30-4-1990 out of the sugarcane transported by sugar mills from areas outside their reseved areas under orders from the State Government, subject to limit of excess production during the pesiod over the production achieved during the corresponding period in the last season.

**Increase in capacity of fertilizer plants**

458. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any proposals pending for Government's decision for increasing the existing capacity of the fertilizer units in the country ;

(b) what is the period of pendency of these projects and what are the reasons for delay in taking a decision thereon ;

(c) what is the estimated cost likely to escalate due to the delay in finalising the projects ; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to expedite the proposals ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI